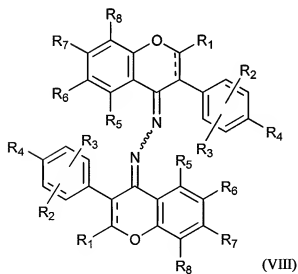
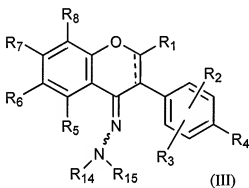


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended): A compound of formula (III) or (VIII):



wherein

R₁ is hydrogen,

R₂, R₃[,], and R₄ are independently hydrogen, hydroxy or OR₉,

R₇ is hydroxy,

R₅, R₆[, R₇] and R₈ are independently hydrogen, hydroxy, or C₁₋₆alkylOR₉, OC(O)R₉, OS(O)R₉, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, thiol, alkylthio, bromo, chloro or fluoro,

R₉ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, fluoroalkyl or arylalkyl,

one of R₁₄ and R₁₅ are independently is hydrogen, amino, cyano, thiol, nitro, or optionally substituted alkyl, haloalkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl or alkylaryl, or the substituents R₁₄ and R₁₅ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an optionally substituted cyclic heteroalkyl or heteroaromatic structure

the other one of R₁₄ and R₁₅ is hydrogen or is phenyl, benzyl, or pyridyl optionally substituted by C₁₋₆ alkyl, nitro, OR₉ halo or cyano, and

the drawing "---" represents either a single bond or a double bond,

~~which compounds include~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable salt[[s]] thereof;

~~with the proviso that the following compounds~~

~~2,3-Dihydro-2,3-diphenyl-4H-1-benzopyran-4-one-hydrazone~~

~~2'-Hydroxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone~~

~~7-Methoxy-isoflavanone-phenylhydrazone~~

~~5,7-Dimethoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone~~

~~Isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone~~

~~6-Hydroxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone~~

~~7-Hydroxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone~~

Isoflavanone semicarbazone

7-Methoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

7-Hydroxy-4'-methoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

5,7-Dimethoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

6-Methoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

4',5,7-trimethoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

7-Methoxy-2-methyl-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

2-(Hydroxymethyl)-7-methoxy-isoflavanone (2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazone

and hydrochloride salts thereof are specifically excluded.

3. (currently amended): A compound according to claim [[1]]2, wherein

R₁ is hydrogen,

R₂, R₃, and R₄ are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, or methoxy,

R₅[[,]] and R₆ are hydrogen, and R₈ are independently hydrogen, hydroxy, -OR₉, OC(O)R₉,
alkyl, aryl or arylalkyl,

R₄ and R₇ are independently hydroxy, -OR₉ or OC(O)R₉,

R₉ is methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl or trifluoromethyl

R₈ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl, and

the other one of R₁₄ and R₁₅ are independently is hydrogen or is phenyl, benzyl or pyridyl
optionally substituted by methyl, nitro, methoxy, chloro or cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl,
isopropyl, trifluoromethyl or optionally substituted phenyl, naphthyl or benzyl, or the
substituents R₁₄ and R₁₅ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an
optionally substituted cyclic heteroalkyl or heteroaromatic structure,

~~which compounds include~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt[[s]] thereof.

4. (currently amended): A compound according to claim [[2]]3, wherein

~~R₁ is hydrogen,~~

~~R₂[[,]] and R₃ are hydrogen, R₅, R₆ and R₈ are independently hydrogen, hydroxy, OR₉,~~

~~OC(O)R₉ or methyl,~~

~~R₄ and R₇ are independently~~ is hydroxy or methoxy, OR₉ or OC(O)R₉,

~~R₉ is methyl,~~

R₈ is hydrogen or methyl,

R₁₄ is hydrogen and R₁₅ is ~~hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by methyl, nitro, methoxy, chloro or cyano, chlorophenyl, nitrophenyl, tolyl, naphthyl, benzyl, chlorobenzyl, nitrobenzyl or methylbenzyl, or the substituents R₁₄ and R₁₅ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an optionally-substituted cyclic heteroalkyl or heteroaromatic structure, and~~

the drawing "---" represents a single bond,

~~which compounds include~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt[[s]] thereof.

5. (currently amended): A compound according to claim [[3]]4 selected from compounds (1) - (10):

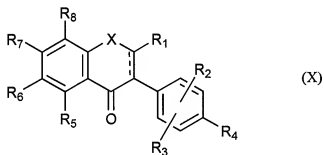
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (phenyl)hydrazone (1)

4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (4-nitrophenyl)hydrazone (2)

4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (4-methylphenyl)hydrazone (3)

4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (benzyl)hydrazone (4)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (4',7-dihydroxyisoflavanone)hydrazone (5)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (2-chlorophenyl)hydrazone (6)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (3-chlorophenyl)hydrazone (7)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (4-chlorophenyl)hydrazone (8)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (2-pyridyl)hydrazone (9)
4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone (4-cyanophenyl)hydrazone (10)
~~which compounds include~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt[[s]] thereof.

6. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (III) or (VIII) as defined in claim 2 comprising the step of reacting the 4-keto group of a compound of the formula (X):



wherein

$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7$ [[,]] and R_8 and X are as defined in claim [[1]]2,

X is O_2 and

the drawing "—" represents either a single bond or a double bond,

with a hydrazine aminating agent of formula $H_2N-NR_{14}R_{15}$,

wherein one of R_{14} and R_{15} is hydrogen, and

the other one of R₁₄ and R₁₅ is hydrogen or is phenyl, benzyl, or pyridyl optionally substituted by C₁₋₆ alkyl, nitro, OR₉, halo or cyano.

7. (canceled).

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled).

12. (currently amended): A method for the treatment, ~~prevention or amelioration~~ of cancer in a mammal which method comprises the step of bringing a compound of formula (III) or (VIII) as defined in claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ~~derivative~~ thereof into contact with cancerous tissue in a mammal that is suffering from a tumour, such that neoplastic development in said cancerous tissue is retarded or arrested.

13. (canceled).

14. (canceled).

15. (currently amended): ~~An agent~~method for the treatment of inflammation,
comprising the step of administering to a patient, prophylaxis or amelioration of a disease or
disorder, which agent comprises one or more compounds of formula (III) or (VIII) as defined in
claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~or derivative thereof~~ to treat said inflammation.

16. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises one or more
compounds of formula (III) or (VIII) as defined in claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~or~~
~~derivative thereof~~ in association with one or more pharmaceutical carriers, excipients, auxiliaries
and/or diluents.

17. (previously presented): A drink or food-stuff, which contains one or more
compounds of formula (III) or (VIII) as defined in claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~or~~
~~derivative thereof.~~

18. (canceled).

19. (currently amended): A compound selected from:

4',7-Dihydroxy-4-methylimino-isoflavan (11)

4',7-Dihydroxyisoflavanone oxime (12)

4-Amino-3',4'-dimethoxy-7-hydroxy-8-methylisoflavan (13)

N-[3',4'-dimethoxy-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-4-chromanyl]-acetamide (14)

~~which compounds include~~ and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

20. (new): The method according to claim 12, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of prostate cancer, breast cancer, and large cell lung cancer.